FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 JANUARY 1986

Libya

Libya called up "part of its strategic reserves" the night of 6 January, JANA announced. The agency subsequently warned that any Mediterranean island or base used for launching an "aggression" against the Jamahiriyah will be "devastated," adding that the countries to whom such islands and bases belong will be responsible. Citing a "confirmed" report that a squadron of Israeli warplanes has been moved from bases in "occupied Palestine" to a U.S. aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean, JANA maintained that the United States and Israel have completed preparations for "aggression" against Libya. Saudi King Fahd contacted Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by telephone, telling the Libyan leader that Saudi Arabia stands "very strongly" by Libya's side and that the Kingdom places all its "material and moral capabilities" on the side of the Jamahiriyah in confronting "imperialist and Zionist threats," according to Tripoli television. Monitored Saudi media have not been observed to mention this conversation.

In Moscow, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vladimir Lomeyko condemned the "threat of force against Libya and Syria" in a press briefing cited by Tripoli TV, deploring the "war hysteria" being whipped up around these countries.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi offensive on the southern Majnun oil field 6 January was "foiled" and Iraq suffered many casualties in this "desperate effort," according to an Iranian Joint Staff communique cited by IRNA. An Iraqi military communique reported by Baghdad Voice of the Masses maintained, however, that Iraq suffered no personnel or materiel losses in taking up new positions in the area. In the air war, Iraqi planes raided Khark Island and also shot down an Iranian F-5 in the northern border area, according to another Iraqi communique carried by the Voice of the Masses. An Iranian military spokesman cited by IRNA maintained that Iranian planes returned safely to their bases after attacking an Iraqi garrison in northern Iraq.

Israel

Jerusalem radio reported that Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir are "close to an agreement" on a political package deal with Egypt that includes the Tabah negotiations. In a separate report, the radio noted that Israel has complained in a letter to the UN secretary general that Syria is aiding Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, and that Israel will take "all possible measures" to protect itself.

Jordan

Jordanian-Egyptian talks began 6 January in Cairo on "ways to bolster bilateral military cooperation," Cairo radio reported.

Iran

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal left Tehran 6 January after a 3-day official visit, IRNA reported. At a press conference reported by Tehran radio, the prime minister described his visit as "useful" and as a basis for future expansion of bilateral political and economic relations.

Afghanistan

Four Army generals accused of providing Soviet troop movement information to a rebel leader were arrested in Kabul, according to Western diplomatic sources cited by AFP. As a result, Afghan commanders will now receive only 4 hours notice of any Soviet troop movement.

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Afghan Generals Arrested for Aiding Rebels

HK070838 Hong Kong AFP in English 0836 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 6 (AFP) — Four Afghan army generals have been arrested in Kabul on charges of spying for Moslem guerrillas, Western diplomats said here today. The diplomats' sources did not name the generals, but said they were charged with passing information on Soviet-Afghan troop movements to rebel commander Ahmad Shah Masud, who holds the north of the strategic Panjshir Valley despite eight Soviet attempts to dislodge him.

The Russians were said to be "extremely angry" and to have ordered that Afghan commanders should not be given more than four hours notice of any Soviet movements.

The diplomats also reported fighting late last month in the Pashghore area of Panjshir, saying a December 22 guerrilla attack left 23 Soviets dead. Four mujahidin, including their commander, Mohammed Ghada, died in the operation, diplomats said. Skirmishes also continued along the strategic Salang Highway, the main supply artery between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan.

Dzasokov-Led USSR Delegation Arrives in Kabul

LD070016 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] A high-ranking delegation headed by Aleksandr S. Dzasokhov, first deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With African and Asian Countries, arrived in Kabul today for a friendly visit at the invitation of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Abdul Majid Sarboland, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of the Afghanistan Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization; Abdorrahim Hatif, chairman of the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front; and F.A. Tabeyev, Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Mongolia

LD062215 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] A cooperation agreement between the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Mongolia to further strengthen the two countries friendly relations was signed recently in Ulaanbaatar.

In reporting this, Khodadad Basharmal, assistant to the DRA foreign affairs minister, who led a delegation on a visit to Mongolia for a friendly visit to that country at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Mongolia, told a BAKHTAR correspondent: The Afghan delegation met with the Mongolian Council of Ministers vice chairman and some other high-ranking authorities during its visit to that country. The Afghan delegation returned home today.

Haska Maina District Chiefs Form Youth Militia

LD042343 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1330 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The elders and chiefs of Hasan Khel, Hamda Khel and Ayaz Khel tribes of Haska Maina district of Shenwar Major District, Nangarhar Province, expressed their all-round cooperation for the implementation of the various progressive programs of the party and government at a tribal jirga held in the head quarter of this district. They have organized some of their youth in the border militia of Haska Maina District in order to take an active part in the restoration of security. They assured the revolutionary government of their complete devotion to the implementation of the historic resolutions of the Loya Jirga and the high border tribes jirga, on covering and safeguarding the borders, consolidating government authority and restoring security.

The jirga also decided that if anyone's son or brother is among the counterrevolutionary bands he should put down his weapon and discontinue his cooperation with this (?band), otherwise they should pay 300,000 afghanis as a penalty. [as heard]

Foreign Minister To Visit Iran, Kuwait, Bahrain

BK061519 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1431 GMT6 Jan 86

[Text] Briefing newsmen on 6 January, the official spokesman announced that the external affairs minister [EAM] will be visiting Iran from 10-12 January, at the invitation of the Iranian foreign minister. Subsequently the E.A.M. will visit Kuwait from 13-14 January and Bahrain from 15-16 January 1986.

In Tehran the EAM will lead the Indian delegation at the Indo-Iranian Joint Commission meeting. It is learnt that a cultural exchange programme for two years with Iran is expected to be signed during this visit. Visits to Kuwait and Bahrain are in the nature of goodwill visits in response to the invitations from the foreign ministers of Kuwait and Bahrain respectively.

Opposition Party Delegation To Visit Sri Lanka

HK061424 Hong Kong AFP in English 1345 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 6 (AFP) — An Indian opposition party has decided to send a delegation to Sri Lanka to study the situation created by the ethnic problem there, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today. The pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party put forward its plans in a resolution adopted yesterday by its policy-making body, the National Executive, at the end of a two-day meeting in the northern city of Chandigarh, PTI said. The resolution named BJP chairman and former Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee to lead the delegation, but it did not list the other team members or set dates for their visit.

Violence against innocent and poor people in the name of suppressing terrorism is increasing in Sri Lanka, the resolution said, adding that innocent Tamils continued to be killed in clashes with security forces sparked by the Tamil separatists' campaign for independence in northern and eastern provinces. The team plans to meet with "all those concerned" during their tour, the report said.

Communications Official Visits YAR, Signs Accord

For Sanaa and Delhi radio reportage on the visit by Minister of State for Communications Ram Niwas Mirdha to the Yemen Arab Republic, including a report on a memorandum signed covering the expansion of cooperation in telecommunications, see the 6 January Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT*.

Mauritian Deputy Prime Minister Arrives 6 Jan

BK061319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] The deputy prime minister of Mauritius, Sir Gaetan Duval, arrived in New Delhi today on a 12-day visit to India. Mr Duval, who is also the attorney general and minister of justice of Mauritius, is visiting the country at the invitation of the law minister, Mr A.K. Sen.

Comment, Reportage on Continuing Punjab Violence

Chief Minister's Statement

BK061615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] According to news agencies, three persons were injured at Ahmadnagar in Sangrur District in Punjab this morning when suspected terrorists opened fire near a bus stand. The terrorists escaped. Senior police officials have gone to the spot. No arrest has been made so far.

Group of students showing allegiance to the All India Sikh Students Federation led by Harender Singh Kalon, today blocked road traffic at two places in Punjab. They detained buses belonging to Haryana and Delhi Transport Corporation in protest against the arrest of Professor Darshan Singh Ragi by the Haryana police last week. Some buses were detained in Jullundur. Traffic was also blocked at a place in Amritsar.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has taken a serious view of the violent incidents reported from different parts of the state. Addressing a high level meeting of senior civil and police officials in Chandigarh this afternoon, he said those indulging in such activities should be dealt with firmly. The meeting evolved a new strategy for delaying with such activities. Among others the meeting was attended by the finance minister, Mr Balwant Singh, the chief secretary, the home secretary, the director general of police, and police chiefs of different ranges in the state.

Akali Dal Call Against Extremists

BK061302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] In Chandigarh, a joint meeting of the Akali Dal members of parliament and state legislature, district presidents, and other senior leaders of the party today gave a massive mandate to the state government to firmly deal with elements who are trying to create a law and order problem in the state. The resolution adopted unanimously called upon the people of Punjab, particularly the Sikhs, to boldly defeat the nefarious designs of the forces of disruption and destabilization. It described the call given by the All India Sikh Students Federation for rasta roko [road blockade] on the 10th of this month as an attempt to destabilize the state government.

Seven Killed 6 Jan

BK070305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] In Punjab, seven persons were killed and at least five injured in five different incidents of violence spread over four districts of the state last night. In Jullundur three persons were killed and one injured when some unidentified miscreants opened fire at a petrol pump in village Jandiala. At Jira in Ferozepore District two persons died and least one was injured following a shootout. A flour mill owner was killed in a village in Gurdaspur

District. In Amritsar an old lady was stabbed to death. Three persons were also injured in different incidents in the city.

Meanwhile, an official spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent this morning that law-enforcing agencies have been asked to effectively curb lawlessness in the state. He said the deployment of the security forces in the state is being reorganized. Round-the-clock patrolling has also been intensified all over the state.

The state Congress-I legislature party has expressed its serious concern over deteriorating law and order situation in the state. It urged the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to take steps to check terrorism and restore peace. The party at its meeting in Chandigarh in a resolution said that the people in the state are panicky in the face of acts of terrorism. In another resolution the party said that the Punjab accord should be implemented in total. Later, the party members met Mr Barnala and conveyed the party's concern.

Gujarat Police Fire To Disperse Mob; 75 Held
BK061625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Chaudhari, has said that the situation in Ahmadabad is now under control. Talking to newsmen in Gandhinagar today, he said that relaxation of the indefinite curfew in the Kalupur area will be decided tomorrow. He said the government is determined to curb all such disturbances with a stern hand.

Three incidents of arson and two incidents of stabbing have been reported from the affected areas. The police fired two rounds at two different places to disperse violent mob. No one was injured. The police have rounded up 75 persons as a precautionary measure.

Telugu Desam Conference Calls For Greater Autonomy
BK050357 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] The 3-day annual conference of the Telugu Desam ended in Hyderabad yesterday. Addressing a rally on the concluding day, the Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, has said that states should be given more powers and greater autonomy. He said under the federal constitution all states are equal. He criticized the Congress-I for describing regional parties as antinational.

Several speakers belonging to 13 non-Congress-I political parties demanded a second channel of TV to each state to focus their own programs. The speakers included Mr P. Upendra, leader of the opposition in parliament, Mr Dinesh Goswami of the Asom Gana Parishad, and Mr K.P. Unnikrishnan, Congress-S.

The chief minister of Karnataka, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, pleaded for electoral reform to eliminate bogus voting and to strengthen democracy. The chief minister of Punjab, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has said that the Sikhs are always in the forefront in the national cause and made numerous sacrifices for the freedom and integrity of the nation. As reported earlier, the parties which attended the meeting decided to set up a common forum for action on different issues.

Junejo Says New Federal Cabinet To Be Formed in Jan

BK071040 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said that a new federal cabinet will be announced during this month. He was talking to newsmen at the Lahore airport before his departure for Islamabad after a 2-day stay in the provincial capital.

Answering the question regarding the revival of political activities, the prime minister said that normally political freedom will be provided to everyone within the framework of existing laws and it was also the duty of everyone to respect the laws of the land. Mr Junejo said the Muslim League Parliamentary Party is being formed and will finally come into existence in the 3d week of this month. He said it was a great achievement that the laws of the land, supremacy of the courts, and fundamental rights have been restored.

Referring to relations with India, the prime minister observed there has been a significant improvement in Indo-Pak relations during the last 6 months, and the process continues.

The prime minister was seen off at the airport by the Punjab Governor Maqdum Mohammad Sajjad Hussain Quraishi; the chief minister, Mr Mohammad Nawaz Sharif; several federal and provincial ministers; and senior officials.

PAKISTAN TIMES on Junejo's Policy Statement

GF061337 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 2 Jan 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Mr Junejo's Manifesto"]

[Text] Premier Mohammad Khan Junejo, in his address to the nation, has elaborated his fundamental commitments in a five-point statement of policy: Islamic ideology, an equitable economic structure, elimination of illiteracy, campaign against corruption and defence of Pakistan's sovereignty and national integrity.

If one recalls the very first speech he made in Parliament after becoming prime minister, one will find these principal undertakings expressed there. The latest statement, therefore, is not a mere flourish in the wake of the lifting of martial law; it is in fact Mr Junejo's way of looking at things and his assessment of the kind of problems Pakistan is presently facing and needs to resolve. The matter of corruption has received a lot of attention and those who have despaired of remedies are now looking forward to the measures the premier will take. Rural uplift and promotion of agriculture is the sector which will now receive priority. The premier has time and again identified himself specifically as a representative of the majority of the country's population which lives a life of hardships in the countryside.

One factor to which Mr Junejo has pointed has to be kept in mind while making sense of his manifesto. The tasks that he has undertaken will be addressed and accomplished in an environment of participation, not of diktat. What he has pledged to do will find expression in his handling of the Cabinet, his initiative with regard to the ponderously inefficient and corrupt bureaucracy and his budget strategies.

No one can deny that the period of participative democracy is going to be difficult. The country has been under military rule too long, however benign it may have been. The entire state structure has become habituated to a line of command characteristic of the Army and the public connection has become dwarfed in the minds of the very functionaries employed to serve the people. Now that martial law is no more, democratic norms will have to be revived; after such a long time, they may even have to be inculcated from the rudiments. The people will have to see their own representatives, their ministers, in a more favourable light; and the bureaucrats will have to learn that civilian ministers are not impressive by the dint of their appearance but on the basis of the strength they draw from the masses. Mr Junejo's manifesto is on sound lines and will have a long-term effect on the country.

In an environment of freedom, things may initially look more disorganised than during martial law but this is the disorganisation we prefer. We should be willing to accept early hardship in order to deserve the true democratic environment that we have always wanted.

Mujahidin Attack Ghazni Governor in Afghanistan

BK050239 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the governor of Ghazni was seriously injured and several of his bodyguards were killed due to an attack on his car by mujahidin. The condition of the governor is said to be serious. Another report says mujahidin made rocket attacks on Qandahar radio and television stations affecting broadcasts.

Mujahidin Operations in Afghanistan Detailed

BK061605 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin are reported to have destroyed a military jeep near Qal'eh-ye Now, the capital of Badghis Province along the Soviet border. A military officer and three soldiers, who were traveling in the jeep, were killed on the spot.

In another operation, the mujahidin attacked a security post in the (Gojjar) area last month, killing two office holders of the Karmal administration's ruling party and three Karmal soldiers.

SRI LANKA

Government Troops, Tamils Clash; 3 Dead

NC041715 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, Jan 4 (AFP) — Three persons were killed and at least 10 wounded when militant Tamil separatists attacked government troops in the northern capital Jaffna today, informed sources there said.

They said the dead had not been identified but were believed to have been killed in the cross-fire as militants fired at an army camp in the Jaffna Fort with automatic weapons and mortars. Troops responded with mortar fire, the sources said. At least 10 wounded persons were treated at the Jaffna hospital during the clash, which died down after noon, the sources said. The troops had withdrawn to their camp in the fort after clashing earlier today with militants in northern Jaffna. It was not immediately known whether the latest casualties included those reported from the earlier clash.

In the earlier clash, Lieutenant-General Cyril Ranatunge, chief of the anti-guerrilla operations, said security forces wounded at least two militant Tamil separatists after militants had laid landmines around a hotel where members of a multiracial ceasefire monitoring committee were to stay.

Defense Ministry Details 1985 Deaths Due to Tamils

HK061150 Hong Kong AFP in English 1116 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Colombo, Jan 6 (AFP) — Militant Tamil separatists killed 1,079 people in Sri Lanka last year, officials told Colombo-based diplomats today. A total [of] 885 were civilians and 194 were security forces personnel, Defense Ministry Additional Secretary Wickrema Weerasooria told diplomats and representatives of international agencies today. The army lost 99 men and the police lost 78. The official said this compared with 93 security personnel killed by Tamils in 1984.

He also said the militants carried out 366 abductions, with most of the victims now presumed dead. He said the separatists had committed 397 murders and 280 abductions after a ceasefire began last June 18. The ceasefire was agreed on by the government and five major militant groups fighting for a separate state in the north and east.

Today's meeting was the Defence and National Security Ministries' second briefing for diplomats and foreign agency representatives on the Tamil problem.

Asked about a letter from a militant group that tea exports had been poisoned, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said no such contamination had been found.

He said the government had anticipated such possibilities last year and taken steps from "factory to exporting firm to ship" to ensure tea could not be adulterated. He said more precautions were taken last week after the letter was received.

Security Minister on Allegations

HK070716 Hong Kong AFP in English 0706 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] Colombo, Jan 7 (AFP) — Seven Sri Lankan troops were killed and one injured when militants blew up their vehicle with a landmine, the first deaths of security forces reported this year, army commander Nalin Seneviratne said today.

The incident, in which one officer died, occurred yesterday near Omantai in the northern Vavuniya District, Major-General Seneviratne told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. It followed two days of clashes between militants and security forces in northern Jaffna Saturday and Sunday in which residents said 13 people died and almost 70 were wounded.

Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said that Jaffna was quiet yesterday. He also today dismissed as "rank nonsense" an allegation by Indian-based Tamil separatists that troops had taken the eyes of Tamils they had killed for export for use in transplants. The Madras-based Eelam People's Information Centre (EPIC) had charged at the eyes were being taken for export, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said yesterday.

Mr. Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the allegation was "another piece of terrorist disinformation like the tea poisoning hoax," and said that the militants were trying to destroy Sri Lanka's "great charitable exercise in eye donation." Sri Lanka is the world's leading eye donor and most of the eyes collected are sent abroad for use in transplants free of charge. Hudson Silva, the president of the Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society and superintendent of the International Eye Bank, dismissed the claim as "preposterous."

The "tea hoax" remark referred to a recent claim by a splinter militant separatist group, the Tamil Eelam Army, that they had poisoned tea exports. Mr. Athulathmudali said yesterday that no such contamination had been found, and that the government had anticipated such a possibility last year and taken steps from "factory to exporting firm to ship" to ensure tea could not be adulterated.

Montazeri Speaks to Revolution Committees Officials
GF040612 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] According to our correspondent, the commanders and the clergymen responsible for the revolution committees throughout the country, accompanied by Mr Sarajeddin Musavi, caretaker of the revolution committees, a group of volunteers from the Reconstruction Crusade, and members of the Majlis Islamic Guidance Committee have met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri during the past 2 days.

During his meeting with the commanders of the revolution committees, he recalled the need to form the revolution committees at the time of the Islamic Revolution's success. He thanked the responsible sacrificing brothers and the clergymen who had served so well on the revolution committees. He said: To safeguard the dignity and moral sanctity of the organizations which sprang from the heart of the revolution, such as the committees, the Revolution Guards, the mobilization organization, the reconstruction crusade, and the revolution courts is of utmost importance. The people's expectations of these organizations, like their expectations of clergymen, are very high. This expectation is justified. Just as when one cleric makes a mistake, the people blame all the clergy, if one member of a revolutionary organization makes a mistake, the people blame the entire revolution or the whole revolutionary organization.

This is why the duty of the authorities and members of these organizations is heavy. It is possible that as a result of some rash or harsh action and some rough and un-Islamic confrontation with people, dissatisfaction could gradually grow in the population. As a final result, the entire revolution or the revolutionary organizations would be questioned by the people. The people's ideas about them would then become like their views of the former police force.

If, God forbid, such a judgement is created in our sacrificing people, the revolution would fail. If that were to happen, a blow would be dealt forever against Islam and the clergy.

He stressed: The revolution committees should not meddle in the private and personal lives of the people. Some of you have undertaken searches and other meddlesome acts into the family and private lives of some people who don't have anything to do with the counterrevolution. Although these actions have been taken with good intention, perhaps to fight immorality, it nonetheless is against the laws of the Shari'ah and the laws of the country. People must be free in their personal and private lives. Some of the actions and confrontations, although done without evil intent, gradually create dissatisfaction among the people. In some cases, it is possible that some counterrevolutionary elements might have infiltrated into organizations holy to the revolution and their ultimate mission would be to make the people bitter about the revolution. This is a plot which, according to an informed source, has been mentioned in some foreign press. They say that the Islamic Revolution in Iran will not be defeated by military or economic or other blows, but rather by people who appear to be good and revolutionary, placed inside the revolutionary organizations to create dissatisfaction and bitterness among the population so that the revolution can rot from within.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then commented on the plot to distribute narcotics. He said: One of the plots mentioned at a conference held at the so-called Islamic Studies' University in Israel was the spread of prostitution and immorality, especially narcotics, among the young revolutionary people in our country. Therefore one must confront the issue in a calculated manner. As a first step, the nation's borders must be completely controlled. Under the present circumstances, this serious duty cannot be undertaken solely by the Gendermerie. Therefore, the Islamic Revolution committees, instead of being present in large and small towns, must divert their attention to the country's borders. The revolution committees must be strengthened on the borders. With the cooperation of the Gendermerie and with strengthened support from dedicated clergymen, a mobilization of forces toward the borders should take place. Also something should be done so that the country's frontiers come under strict control.

If the borders are completely controlled and if the possibility of narcotics smuggling by counterrevolutionaries and criminals is removed, the seizure of narcotics inside the country by the revolution courts would be easy.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then said: Just as the presence of the members of the Reconstruction Crusade in the towns became unnecessary and this revolutionary organization diverted its attention and its resources toward poor and deprived villages, the revolution committees, who from the start were created because of society's need for them, must now evaluate their situation to see where they are most needed. I belive the border regions are where they are most needed. In addition to mobilizing forces for the battlefields of the imposed war, one must not forget the importance of controlling the borders. One must be aware that the sensitivity of the frontiers is no less than that of the war fronts of the imposed war. Both of these areas must come under the attention of our sacrificing people, our dedicated youth, and the respected clergy.

He added: The enemy, by distributing narcotics in the country, can deliver a major blow to our people and our nation. Efforts and cooperation to prevent such a danger are of primary necessity.

At this point, the audience shouted slogans in favor of strict actions by the revolution courts in combatting narcotics' smugglers.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then commented on the need for the government to pay more attention to the villages and to prevent villagers from emigrating to the towns. He said: Until such time that necessary services and creature comforts and services are as cheap in the villages as they are in large towns like Tehran, people will not return to the villages from the towns. For example, we can see the results of mentioning a metro system for Tehran. I think if the work on the metro were to start, many villagers would come to Tehran for the manual labor. Because those who are already in Tehran are not prepared to take up spades and picks in their hands, workers must be brought in from villages and Tehran's problems will increase. If, instead of building a metro in Tehran they would provide ways for the villagers to grow and produce food, if their problems with electricity and water were

solved, and if their produce were bought on time at reasonable prices at the market, many people would willingly go back to the villages to farm.

During his meeting with members of the Majlis' Islamic Guidance Committee, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri commented on redundant work and slogan-giving. He said: This type of work, such as printing posters and printing magazines with little content, should be discontinued. In their place, propaganda abroad and printing the Koran and Islamic books in Muslim countries which need them very badly, should be increased.

Sometimes we hear that in some ministries, most of the budget is spent on personnel rather than on the work that has to be done. This is because of the uncontrolled recruitment by the previous regime. Today, we have to do something about this issue. I belive that instead of hiring new people, it would be better if the government passed a bill so that if a ministry has personnel it does not need, it can transfer them to other ministries who need new employees. Then the employees would be obliged to serve anywhere the government tells them.

Majlis Approves Two New Ministerial Appointments

LD051123 Tehran IRNA in English 1112 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 5, IRNA — The Majlis (parliament) approved Mohammad Javad Iravani and Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi as the new ministers of economics and financial affairs, and mines and metals respectively in its open session here Sunday.

The Majlis first discussed credentials of Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi's nominees for the vacant ministries and later the prime minister briefed the Majlis on qualifications and backgrounds of the two candidates.

Iravani's nomination was approved by 138 voting in favour, 6 against and 32 abstentions. Meanwhile, Ayatollahi received 143 votes in his favour, 4 against and 29 abstentions.

Prime Minister Musavi in a letter to the Majlis last Thursday [2 January] proposed Iravani and Ayatollahi as the nominees for the posts vacant since the formation of his new cabinet in October.

In a brief address to the Majlis, Musavi referred to the importance of the role the two ministries played in economic independence of the country.

He added that both the candidates served in revolutionary institutions and had a good record in management.

The prime minister described proposing the two candidates as "a good choice" for the Ministries of Economic and Financial Affairs, and Mines and Metals.

Speaking before voting Iravani, 32, addressed the Majlis on his plans for the ministry and said that oil-sustained economy was a heritage left from the toppled regime. He stressed the need for the creation of a non-oil economic system.

Ayatollahi, 36, talked about the present bottlenecks facing the mines and metals sector and stressed that elimination of these problems needed a sound planning.

Iravani Biography

LD052035 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 5, IRNA — The new minister for economic and financial affairs, 32 year old Mohammad Javad Iravani, is a highly qualified banking manager and hails from Tehran. He started religious-political activities from high school onwards.

Iravani received his bachelors degree in 1975 from the Tehran School of Banking. A bright student, he was awarded a scholarship by the Bank of Tehran for Masters degree at Northrop University, California.

While in the U.S. he intesified his religious-political activities and joined the Islamic Association of Iranian Students becoming its head of the publications department.

On his return to Iran, Iravani founded an Islamic association in the Bank of tehran, where he was employed and later became a member of the Coordination Committee for Islamic Associations.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution Iravani held various high ranking positions in three banks and was recently the head of a government run paper and wood distribution center.

Iravani is married and has two children.

Ayatollahi Biography

LD051607 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 5 IRNA — The newly appointed Minister of mines and metals, Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi, 36 was born in a religious familiy in Qom, Tehran Province in 1949.

Ayatollahi finished primary and high school in Qom. He is a graduate from Tabriz University in electronics engineering (1976).

After the 1979 Islamic Revolution, he was elected as managing director of Sufian Cement Plant by its personnel, which post he held for two years. In the meanwhile Ayatollahi served as member of a seven-man council responsible for distributing seized and state-owned lands among farmers.

Later, he was appointed representative of East Azarbayjan chapter of nationalized industries organization and industry advisor to the governor general of East Azarbayjan province.

Ayatollahi's most recent post was advisor to the industries minister and managing director of satellite townships company.

During his military service under the shah in 1970-71 he was frequently arrested by Savak (the shah's secret police).

Ayatollahi played an active role in nationwide strikes culminating in the Islamic Revolution in 1979. He has also served as member of the strike coordination committee in Sufian cement plant during the revolution.

Navy Releases Seized Danish Ship

LD031539 Tehran IRNA in English 1526 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 3, IRNA — The Danish liner, *Horneland* was released by Iran's Navy Friday after its Iraq-destined consignment comprising 60 tons of explosives was seized, a military source told IRNA here Friday.

A statement published by crew members of the ship, expressed satisfaction with the human treatment of Iranian Naval personnel, furthermore saying that they had been "provided with all their needs" during the seizure of the liner, according to the military source.

Iranian naval ships were escorting the Danish liner to waters outside the Persian Gulf, it was also noted.

Ministry Condemns Salvadoran Embassy in Jerusalem

LD051712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemned the recent decision by the El Salvador Government to establish an embassy in Jerusalem. It declared that it considers this action by the El Salvador Government as trampling the just rights of the Palestinian people and enmity towards the Islamic world.

While condemning any form of relations with the regime occupying Jerusalem, the Islamic Republic of Iran declares to the nations in the region and the world Muslims, that America is the principal protector of the racist regime occupying Palestine, and has mobilized all her forces for military, political, economic, and terroristic strengthening of the Zionist regime; that they are together engaged in threatening and committing aggression against Islamic countries.

The Islamic Republic of Iran considers this action by the El Salvador Government an example of America's support for the regime occupying Jerusalem, and once again stresses the necessity to fight against the regime occupying Jerusalem until its destruction.

Reportage on Visit of Turkish Prime Minister Ozal

Musavi Comments Upon Ozal Arrival

LD031752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, heading a political-parliamentary and economic delegation comprising the minister of state for economic affairs, the deputy foreign minister, and several members of Parliament and the governor of the Central Bank, arrived in Tehran this evening. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Musavi, the minister of heavy industries, the governor of the Central Bank, and a number of Islamic and Arab countires' ambassadors and charge d'affaires.

On his arrival, the Turkish Prime Minister spoke to our correspondent, saying: The present visit is in response to Mr Musavi's trip. I am convinced that our relations with Iran will improve. He added: During the current visit, bilateral and regional issues will be discussed with Islamic Republic officials and views will be exchanged. We are optimistic about the future.

Then, Prime Minister Musavi spoke to our correspondent and, commenting on the objectives of the delegation's visit to Iran and the future of relaitons between the two countries, said.

[Begin recording][Musavi] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful: Our economic relations with fraternal Turkey have been progressing quite well so far. Needless to say, such ties influence our foreign policy; that is to say, we have often declared our readiness to establish good relations with our neighboring and Islamic countries.

Naturally, a considerable volume of economic and commercial trade with Turkey shows that Islamic countries can meet each other's requirements through closer ties, thereby becoming more independent from the superpowers. This means that they can reduce their dependence on them, thus solving their problems among themselves.

I think that, considering the talks which took place earlier between [Minister of Heavy Industries] Nabavi and [name indistinct] which resulted in a memorandum of understanding being signed, the outlook for commercial ties ought to be quite good in the coming year for both countries. As for the volume of trade, next year it should remain roughly similar to that of last year. I should, however, add that compared to previous years, trade this year has increased appreciably. Nevertheless, both countries should attempt to increase the present volume of trade during the current and future years.

[Question] Apart from economic issues, are you planning to discuss the issue of the war as well?

[Musavi] We have always declared our stands. Consequently, it is quite natural that as a neighboring country we shall reiterate our stand to Turkey. Generally, we use such visits not only to declare our stand with regard to the war, but also on regional relations between the Islamic countires and the world. [end recording]

Discussions With Khamene'i

LD061226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit Report, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal met President Khamene'i this morning. Prime Minister Musavi, Presidential Senior Advisor Mir-Salim

and the Turkish prime minister's political advisor also attended the meeting.

Expressing his pleasure at his visit to Iran and satisfaction with the positive outcome of his talks with Iranian officials, the Turkish prime minister said: Our relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran since the victory of the revolution have appreciably expanded in every sphere, particularly in the economic sphere. We are prepared to further expand these relations in their various dimensions. He added: Recently, Turkey has tried to expand its relations with all Islamic countries; however, a great many foreign powers do not want such expansions to take place. The Turkish prime minister emphasized: Unity among Muslim nations will create great power, especially in the economic sphere. We believe that this is something which will be realized in the near future.

On the basis of the same report, President Khamene'i, having expressed his pleasure at the increasing expansion of all-round relations between the two Muslim countries, said: We attach great significance to our realtions with you. Thank God, since the victory of the revolution these relations have expanded impressively in all dimensions, especially in the economic field. It is, however, necessary to further expand them through our sincere efforts.

The president then added: Nowadays, solidarity and the expansion of relations between Muslim countries, particularly in the Middle East, are not desired by the major powers. As a result, one should make careful and cautious efforts and sincere endeavors to further expand such ties. The president further added: The unity of Muslim and Islamic countries in the cultural, political, economic, as well as other fields is one of the greatest aspirations of our revolution.

Alluding to the ulterior motives entertained by the major powers in trying to prevent the expansion of friendly relations between Iran with its neighboring countries, the president stressed: In spite of the wishes of the major powers, the Islamic Republic of Iran has proved that it is powerful enough and willing enough to have good and strong ties with friendly countries, particularly its neighbors. At present, with the exception of two — one being Iraq, which launched an aggression against Iran, and Afghanistan, which has an illegitimate regime in power — Iran has good and healthy relations with all its neighboring countries.

Commenting on the imposed war, the president said: The present Iraqi regime is an expansionist and warmongering regime which is deeply influenced by major powers. Right now, the Persian Gulf states, the ones which were supporting the Iraqi regime, are generally unhappy with it. Even your own country has not remained immune to the harms and devious methods perpetrated by that regime.

Mr Khamene'i emphasized: We have always declared that this war will not end as long as the present Iraqi regime is in power. Therefore, a realistic solution for ending this war — a solution which could enable both the Iranian and Iraqi nations as well as the region's nations to enjoy a lasting peace — is to change the present regime in Iraq. At present, apart from its creditors, the Iraqi regime has no genuine supporters.

The report adds that at the end of the meeting, Turgut Ozal and Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the two prime ministers held a private meeting with the president.

2d Round Musavi-Ozal Talks

LD061635 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, this morning the second round of talks between the prime ministers of Iran and Turkey was held. A group of officials from the two countries attended the talks.

At the meeting, Prime Minister Musavi, noting the success of the talks, viewed the visit by the Turkish prime minister to Iran as satisfactory. He stated: Concurrent with the results of the visit so far, we can foresee the outlook for bilateral and regional relations, which we consider a great achievement.

The prime minister, noting the importance of identifying the economic resources of the two countires, said: During these visits, more of the economic resources of the two countires are being identified. We are now able to pursue issues that we could not dsicuss earlier.

Mir Hoseyn Musavi added: The Islamic common market was a distant ideal 2 years ago. However, we see that today, economic cooperation between the Islamic countires is not that far away. There is no reason to limit bilateral economic relations to oil, when expansion into other fields is possible.

Musavi stated: The economic relations and the fundamental policiesof our Islamic nations can expand further. The Islamic belief shared by the regional nations has already provided a natural basis for unity and cooperation between the countries extending from Turkey to the littoral states of the Persian Gulf.

According to the same report, Turgut Ozal expressed his optimism for the future of the bilateral relations and urged the authorities of the two countries to maintain continuous contacts in order to deepen the mutual relations. He noted that those who once controlled the region were against the mutual relations.

According to our correspondent's report, in the course of today's discussions on energy, emphasis was placed on pursuit of agreed issues related to (?Ektir) Dam.

Noon News Conference

LD061207 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] At noon today, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who is heading a high-ranking political-economic delegation visiting Iran, answered questions put to him by correspondents at a news conference for press, radio, and television in Tehran.

The Turkish prime minister first described the outcome of his meetings with Iranian officials as useful and the existing atmosphere in the relations between the two countries as extremely

cordial. He said: In our talks with Iranian officials, we discussed and exchanged views on major regional and international issues, including the problem of Afghanistan, Turkey's dispute with Greece and Bulgaria, regional trade, and the problems of the two countries' border provinces, as well as the oil and gas trade.

He went on: Of course, this visit is not regarded as commercial but it will provide the basis for expanding future political and economic relations. The Turkish prime minister, replying to a question that in view of the expanding relations between the two countries in various fields why did he not comment explicitly on the Iraqi aircraft attack on the airliner carrying a Turkish official, said: The matter is being investigated at the moment. When we obtain full details and the matter is clarified, an appropriate response will be given, for one cannot comment on the basis of speculation at the moment.

He rejected any form of mediation with regard to the imposed war and stated that he will pray for the war to end. In answer to a question as to whether Iraq is responsible for starting the war, Mr Ozal said: This is a difficult question and my answer to it would not help solve the problem of the war. Therefore, allow me to say nothing on the matter.

Regarding Iran's position that Saddam must go, he said: If you go out into the streets and alleys of Iran and Tehran it will be reasonably clear that all the Iranian people believe that. But it is not easy for me to answer. I hope that the war will end justly.

Regarding his country's relations with Israel, the Turkish prime minister said: Our relations with Israel are a matter of history. These relations existed at ambassadorial level for some 30 years but they are now at the level of second secretary which is the lowest level; neither are there any trade relations at the moment.

Regarding the establishment of new U.S. bases in Turkey, near the Iranian border, he said: As a NATO member, Turkey is operating within its own framework. In response to his country's hostile press position toward Iran, Mr Ozal said: Our press is free in matters of that kind. But I suggest that press contacts between the two countries should be expanded so that such misunderstandings may be eliminated. He said: The principle of our foreign policy is based on what our leader has said: That is to say, there should be peace both in the world and at home.

He went on: At the moment we have good relations with Islamic countries. For the past 6 years, Turkey has been attaching a great deal of importance to expanding relations with Islamic countries. In 1984, the first round of an Islamic economic conference was held in Istanbul; the second round will begin in the near future. Although such ties are not welcomed by certain groups, nevertheless, Turkey's aim is to play the main role in bringing about unity among Islamic countries.

Regarding abolishing customs tariffs in bilateral exchange — something which he announced before leaving Ankara — Mr Ozal said: I think this has been misunderstood. Economic relations and trade between Iran, Turkey, and Pakistan, which used to be conducted in the past within the framework of the regional cooperation for development, are now taking place under the recently renamed organization — The Economic Cooperation Organization.

Further Report

LD061757 Tehran IRNA in English 1502 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 6, IRNA — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said here Monday that his discussions with Iranian officials have been "very friendly and sincere" and were held in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Ozal, who arrived here Friday at the head of a 200-man delegation, said that he has felt the determination of the Iranian people to continue the imposed war until victory and (word indistinct) would like the war to end "honorably".

Answering questions in a press conference on his last day of stay in Iran, Ozal said that officials from both countries should hold additional talks on cooperation in infrastructure industries such as oil and gas.

Ozal said trade between the two countries will reach three billion dollars in 1986. It stood at dlrs. 2.3 billion in 1985.

Ozal said he had reached an "interesting evaluation" in his discussions with Iranian officials, particularly in trade, as well as problems relating to border provinces and regional issues.

The Turkish prime minister said elimination of trade tariffs which he had proposed earlier still needed preliminary talks.

On regional issues he said Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey should coordinate their cooperation.

He said Turkey viewed itself as a bridge between the Islamic world and the West but that "We also seek to play a principal role in the unity of the Islamic countries".

On Turkish relations with the Zionist regime, Ozal said that his country has had diplomatic ties with Israel for the past thirty years on ambassadorial level but that relations were at their lowest point today. "There are no trade relations between the two countries," he added.

Ozal Departs; Musavi Comments

LD061830 Tehran IRNA in English 1444 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 6, IRNA — The Turkish Prime Minister, Turgut Ozal, left here Monday afternoon after three days of official talks with Islamic Republic's top-ranking authorities.

The Turkish prime minister arrived here Friday at the head of a 200-man economic-parliamentary delegation. He visited Tehran at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart, Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

During his stay in the Iranian capital, Turgut Ozal met with Iran's president, Majlis speaker, prime minister, and deputy prime minister for political affairs, and discussed with them issues of mutual interest between the two countries.

Prime Minister Musavi, Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi, governor of the Central Bank Mohsen Murbakhsh, as well as ambassadors of a number of Islamic countries here, saw off the Turkish delegation at the airport.

Meanwhile, prime ministers of Turkey and Iran discussed bilateral energy cooperation between the two countries in their second round of talks here Monday morning.

Iranian premier described the talks conducted between the two sides as "successful". He also said that the achievements gained during the visit of his Turkish counterpart here were "satisfactory".

The premier said the visit has greatly enhanced future prospects for relations between Iran and Turkey as well as the region.

The Turkish premier said that he was optimistic on future relations between the two countries. He also called for further contacts between Iranian and Turkish officials.

Ozal said those powers which once controlled the region, were opposed to Irano-Turkey relations.

Prime Minister Musavi said these visits helped to further recognize joint economic possibilities "and we can now easily discuss those issues which we could not do in the past".

Musavi also said that the establishment of an Islamic common market among Muslim countries is today no longer a forlorn hope as it was two years ago.

Details of Trade Protocol

LD070006 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 6, IRNA — According to a new protocol with Ankara, 90 to 95 percent of Iranian imports from Turkey will be Turkish made, said Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi here Monday.

Nabavi said Iran and Turkey would probably make joint investments in a third country in the future. The two countries are also to build cement and tile factories, he added. He said besides the Turkish market, Iran also plans to enter the international market.

Transport problems between Iran and Turkey, according to officials of the roads and transport ministry have been solved, he said.

Iran's non-oil exports to Turkey will rise to 75 million dollars in '86-87, Nabavi said, adding that the figure was 24 million in '85-86.

Turkey is also to import Iranian-made trucks and automobile bodies, according to the protocol, the minister said.

A high-ranking economic-parliamentary delegation accompanied Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in his 4-day visit here which ended Monday.

Tehran Radio Demands Resolute Stand From Turkey

GF061323 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary: "Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's Visit to Tehran"]

[Text] Dear listeners, while relations between Iran and Turkey continue to develop as a result of the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy designed to further its relations with the homelands of Muslim people, Prime Minister Ozal of Turkey has been holding talks in Tehran with the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran since last Friday. In a statement following his talks with Prime Minister Ozal yesterday, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi expressed hope for the success of the effort made to consolidate relations between the two countries.

He said: One of the aims of the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy is to prove that the dependence of the Muslim countries on foreign forces can be terminated through cooperation.

Explaining the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on matters concerning the region and the war imposed on Iran, Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated that he believed that lasting peace and security cannot be established in the region before the aggressor enemy is removed.

He continued as follows: A great tragic situation has been caused by the 150 missiles fired on Dezful City's residential areas by the Iraqi Ba'thist forces. If you take into consideration the latest act of piracy carried out against an aircraft of the Turkish Airlines, you can understand the kind of enemy we are confronting. As such, we are justified in asking the Turkish people to be more sensitive on the question of the war because of the criminal nature of the enemy.

Speaking after Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal pointed to the conspiracies hatched by the enemies of both Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran. He asked for a more sensitive stance on the part of the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the moves made by the external forces against the friendly relations between Turkey and Iran.

It is obvious that Prime Minister Ozal views the conspiracies hatched in the region with great sensitivity. However, the Turkish authorities are expected to demonstrate a resolute stand on developments and not suffice by merely saying that they are aware of them — not forgetting, in the meantime, that the peoples of the two countries, who share a common Islamic culture, are brothers in Islam. The recent plot organized against an aircraft of the Turkish Airlines by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime must have helped the Turkish people to understand better the kind of criminal enemy Iran is confronting.

Furthermore, it must be understood that while choosing their friends, the Muslims of Iran, who have been struggling against the enemies of Islam in the region with all they have for the past 5 years, heed the principle of taking into consideration their resolute stand against foreign forces which are the enemies of Islam.

Prime Minister Addresses Islamic Council Members

LD031537 Tehran IRNA in English 1517 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 3, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Thursday [2 January] that in the Islamic Republic of Iran the government is the manifestation of the executive power of the people in such a troubled world today.

He also said that the Government of Iran is totally responsive to the needs and aspirations of its people, unlike those of some Third World countires whose governments seized power through the bayonet and with the help of the superpowers.

The prime minister made the statements in a meeting with visiting members of the Islamic councils in Shahryar in outskirts of Tehran Thursday.

Musavi also lauded the Iranian people for their enthusiasm for rushing to the fronts of the Iraqi-imposed war, with only the slightest prompting by imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council (Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani) and for having firmly resisted against the superpowers.

The premier likened the role of the nationwide Islamic councils in developing the country's rural areas to that of the same vigor and commitment which bought the Islamic Revolution to victory.

More on Musavi-Ardabili's 'Sermon' on Libya, DRA

LD031611 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Tehran, Jan 3, IRNA — Chief Justice and surrogate leader of Friday congregational prayers in Tehran Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said during his sermons to worshipers at Tehran University campus Friday that Baghdad's recent claim of having erected a 500-km long protective embankment along battlefronts to keep off Iran's Muslim forces or its possession of "dreadful" weapons are lies to panic Iran's Muslim forces and deter Iran's "marchers to Karbala'".

The following are excerpts from the second sermon of the ayatollah to worshippers here Friday.

(On Washington's threats against Tripoli): Libya is guilty solely of resisting imperialism and colonialism. It is determined to stand on its own feet. But the United States continues to threaten Libya and believes it can go on bullying other nations of the world.... It is the duty of every revolutionary Muslim to side with any revolutionary entity in the region which is threatened by the United States....

The United States and Israel would better remember that the Islamic Republic will come to the aid of its brothers-in-faith with all its might anytime it deems it necessary to do so...

(On Afghanistan): The stand of the Islamic Republic is the same as it was: the foreign invading forces should evacuate Afghanistan. Not that they should go and be supplanted by another "wolf", but that once foreign forces have evacuated Afghanistan the right of the Afghan people for self-determination should be recognized....

Tehran Scores Peres on Avenging Airport Attacks

GF031141 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The forces of international arrogance and their agents — Zionists and reactionaries — are trying to implicate the Islamic Republic in the military operations that were carried out against El Al offices at the Rome and Vienna airports.

Following a statement by the official in charge of the security organization in Italy in which he said that those who carried out the operation were trained in Esfahan in the Islamic Republic and then moved to Europe through Syria, the press has begun to write at length about this issue, holding the Islamic Republic primarily responsible for what happened in Rome and Vienna. The latest to cast his bucket into this dirty bog was Shim'on Peres, prime minister of the Zionist entity, who yesterday held Iran, Syria, and Libya responsible for the operation. Peres considered Iran and Syria partners with Libya in supporting Abu Nidal's [Sabri al-Banna] group. If we add to these statements the clear signals given by the White House to the Zionist enemy to go ahead and strike at the party responsible for these operations, and the media's encouragment and instigation of Israel to deal the final blow to those who masterminded and engineered it, the new goals of the arrogance-Zionism alliance against the Islamic Republic become clear.

It seems that Washington has started to play the role of agitator in the conflict in the region; it has started to use its tools instead of becoming directly involved in confrontations whose outcome are clear. As we have noticed, Washington has used the Saddam regime to confront the Islamic revolution since the downfall of the shah's regime and after the collapse of U.S. interests in the region, and most recently after the U.S. Embassy incident -- an embassy that was used as a den of spies on the Muslim people of Iran. Today it is using the Zionist enemy as a first attack line against the mounting Islamic movement in the region. It began to supply the Zionists with arms for any battle determined by U.S. calculations and the strategy of international arrogance. Implicating the Islamic Republic in an issue on which its stand is well known to all is concrete evidence of the nature of the aggressive designs of the Israeli entity and of all forces of arrogance.

These statements and remarks prove beyond doubt that something is being plotted against the Islamic Republic. We know the way arrogance and its Zionist ally will translate this escalation in the confrontation against our Muslim people. The United States and Israel have only one way, and this has been the easiest way to achieve their goal — supporting Saddam and his regime through various material and moral means. This is how Peres will carry out his pledge to strike at the positions that he claims are feeding terrorism, although he knows perfectly well the Islamic Republic's stand on terrorism.

However, Israel has always exploited every incident to its own advantage and its own strategy. It used the attack against the Israeli ambassador in London as an excuse to occupy Lebanon; it used the Israeli spy who was killed in Cyprus to hit the Tunisian

capital. We are sure that it will use the Rome and Vienna operations to realize a specific goal. Part of this goal is to support Saddam's aggression against the Islamic Republic. This aggression began as a joint venture by all the Zionist and arrogant parties, and it still bears the same aggressive nature.

IRNA Cites Reports on U.S. Helicopters for Iraq

LD031743 Tehran IRNA in English 1723 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] London, Jan. 3, IRNA — The Iraqi regime is due to shortly take delivery of 26 American-made Hughes-530 combat helicopters according to a report published by the London-based *JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY* in its December 28th (issue) [words indistinct].

AL-ITTIHAD which is controlled by the UAE's Ministry of Information said that these anti-tank helicopters are capable of carrying out combat missions at night, using advanced electronic equipment.

It added that Iraqi's Air Force received 60 Hughes-300 and Hughes-530 helicopters from the U.S. two years ago.

Delivery of the helicopters and allocation of several hundred million dollars in credit to the Iraqi regime by the U.S. are due to the obvious inclination of the Baghdad Government towards the U.S. policy as well as omission of Iraq from the U.S.'s list of countriessponsoring terrorism.

The helicopters were sold to Iraq without Congressional approval, since as was claimed "they did not have any weapons to make them advanced military aircraft."

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,342

LD061658 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 6, IRNA — An enemy offensive to overcome Iranian positions in southern Majnun Island Monday morning [6 January] was foiled thanks to the vigilance of the Islamic combatants stationed in the area, said a military communique published here Monday.

Communique No. 2342 issued by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces further said that many Iraqi troops were killed or wounded in this "desperate attempt". It also said that the Islamic combatants continued to defend their positions and "are in full control of the operation region."

The communique said Iran's jet fighters bombarded Iraq's 'Kulak garrison' at 36.36 north and 44.20 east coordinates, in west of the Iraqi city of Rawanduz (in northern Iraq) at 8:40 hours (05:10 hours GMT) Monday.

The command also said that all the Iranian planes after inflicting substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi forces at the garrison returned to their bases safely.

It further said that Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi troops in the western fronts on Sunday, killed or wounded at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and demolished three bunkers.

Iran's artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts Sunday inflicted heavy casualties and damage on them and silenced their artillery, according to the communique.

Elsewhere the communique said exchange of fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi forces continued in the southern fronts Sunday raging somewhat more heavier in Kushk and Talayeh. Iraqi forces sustained considerable casualties in these fronts.

An Iraqi motor pool was destroyed and a number of Iraqi soldiers killed or wounded in Deh Laran Sunday when their positions were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie troops.

The communique further said that Iran's Muslim combatants opened fire on some Iraqi vehicle columns in Chuman-Mustafa, Darband and Panjvin Sunday and halted their movement.

Meanwhile, Iraq's long-range artillery fire on the cities of Abadan and Sar Dasht (in the northwest) Sunday damaged six houses.

Iraqi F-5 Downing Denied

LD061730 Tehran IRNA in English 1623 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 6 IRNA — A military spokesman denied an Iraqi claim that it had shot down an Iranian F-5 fighter bomber Monday.

The spokesman said all the Iranian war planes which bombarded 'Kulak' military garrison in northern Iraq Monday morning, had returned to their bases safely.

Jets Raid Sayyid Sadiq Garrison

LD070745 Tehran IRNA in English 0741 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 7, IRNA — Iran's fighter-bombers bombed Sayyid Sadiq garrison, north east of Iraq Tuesday morning, inflicting heavy damages and casualties.

A Joint Staff communique announcing this said that the attack was carried out at 08:30 hours local time (05:00 GMT).

The Iranian fighter-bombers after successfully carrying out their mission, returned to their bases safely, the communique added.

Tehran Reports Soviet Embassy in Kabul Attacked

GF031207 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Reports from Islamabad indicate that the USSR Embassy and a housing complex for the Soviet forces in Kabul were attacked with rockets by Muslim Afghan revolutionaries on Tuesday [31 December].